

Connecting Threads

Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley - February, 2026



February Program: Souped Up Show-and-Tell

A few Guild members will be sharing their experience, challenges, and successes on a big project they completed. We welcome more presenters, so if you have a project in any fiber or craft, contact Robin by email or before the meeting. There will also be the regular show-and-tell, so bring your projects, large or small and let us celebrate your success.

◆ Lisa Baker & Robin Conrads, Vice Presidents

Calendar of Events

Board Meeting

February 7, 2026 ~ 9:30 a.m.
At the Boise First Congregational Church

Regular Meeting:

February 7, 2026 ~ 11:30 a.m.
Program ~ Souped Up Show-and-Tell
At the Boise First Congregational Church of Christ,
2201 Woodlawn, Boise, in the Banquet Room
Next meeting - March 7, 2026

Study Groups:

- February 10, 2026 ~ Lace Study Group
10:00 a.m. ~ At the home of Raelene Viste
- February 11, 2026 ~ Spinning Study Group
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. ~ At Rubaiyat Bookstore
314 S 6th Ave, in Caldwell
- February 12, 2026 ~ Beginning Weaving Study Group
6:00 p.m. ~ At the home of Sheri Bittner
- February 15, 2026 ~ Paper Study Group
1:30 p.m. ~ At the home of Rebecca Winter
- February 15, 2026 ~ Rigid Heddle Study Group
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ~ At the U of I classroom,
1902 E Chicago St, Caldwell
- February 17, 2026 ~ Day Weaving Study Group
10:30 a.m. ~ At the home of Greta Ankeny

February 19, 2026 ~ Tapestry Study Group
11:00 a.m. ~ At the home of Julie Gerrard

March 31, 2026 ~ Garment Study Group
Further Details ~ TBA

Every Thursday ~ Thursday Fiber Friends Zoom
2:00 p.m. ~ Meets on Zoom

Learn to Weave Weekend ~ Study Group:

April 18 & 19, 2026

Workshops:

Understanding Profile Drafting, by Deb Essen. June 19-21, 2026, at the Fairview Terrace Community Center, Meridian, ID.

Color-And-Weave: A Design Technique, by Rebecca Winter. October 16, 17, & 18, 2026, at the Fairview Terrace Community Center, Meridian, ID.

~ See more information later in the Newsletter for these special events. ~

To find Member Contact Information, Log-In to your groups.io account and look in "Files" for the Membership Directory.
The link to the BoiseGuildGroup is [HERE](#).

Upcoming Spring 2026 Programs & Workshops - Plan Ahead

~ March 2026 Different Kinds of Weaving Yarns

Tips for using many of the different kinds of yarns, care and handling, finishing techniques, and What's the Difference Between 8/2 and 2/8? We have a panel of some of our most experienced weavers that have graciously volunteered to be on the panel and present information about weaving yarns. So bring your questions about all things yarn to the March meeting.

~ April 2026 Triangular Weaving by Mitzi Meyers

"The triangle loom I have is primarily for shawls, but I did do 2 matching triangles that were joined together for a poncho once. Typically people who love yarn, love this loom, because you are touching the yarn all the time, and it warps as you go. So no pre-warping! It is a wooden frame with nails all around.

When I purchased it, I also bought the easel, and it is wonderful! There are many shapes available in this type of loom. Looking forward to sharing this type of weaving with you all." — From Mitzi

~ May 2026 Yarn and Equipment Sale.

~ June 2026 Summer Potluck and Kick off to the Summer with Weaving Travel Tips and Summer Weaving Project Ideas. ◆ Lisa Baker, Vice President



2026 Workshops

~ **Understanding Profile Drafting**, by Deb Essen. **June 19-21, 2026**, at the Fairview Terrace Community Center, Meridian, ID. (See the flyer later in the newsletter for a description of the workshop.)

We will begin accepting payment for this workshop at the February meeting: the preliminary cost is \$140.00. The cost is determined by the number of participants, so if we get more weavers signed up, the cost per weaver will decrease. You will also be able to pay online via the website for the workshop. If you choose this payment method, the cost will include a \$5.00 convenience fee. The convenience fee is not refundable except: if the Guild cancels the workshop for lack of interest, or the Board may decide to refund the fee on an individual basis due to extreme circumstances. You can also pay by giving Lisa or Robin a check (which we hold until May) or you can pay in cash.

~ **Color-And-Weave: A Design Technique**, by Rebecca Winter. Plan now for this offering from one of our Master Weavers. She tells us Color-and Weave is not the same as "color in weaving." The workshop will offer an explanation for this statement, and an exploration of the vast possibilities on rigid heddle or shaft looms, with anywhere from 2 to 8 shafts. And, because this is a round robin workshop, you will have the opportunity to weave a sample on each loom offered. Save the Dates: October 16, 17, & 18, 2026.

◆ Lisa Baker, Vice President

Learn To Weave Weekend 2026

DATE: APRIL 18-19, 2026

TIME: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (**doors open at 9 a.m.** for loom setup. Instruction starts promptly at 10 a.m.)

LOCATION: Fairview Terrace Mobile Estates Clubhouse: 700 E Fairview Ave, Meridian, ID

CONTACTS: Cindy Griewe (208-761-7679) or Robin Conrads (208-440-0506)

COST: \$40 (includes yarn)

LIMITED TO 14 PARTICIPANTS

MENTORS (FREE) - ALSO NEEDED FOR BOTH DAYS

MAY SIGN UP AS PARTICIPANT OR MENTOR THROUGH THE GUILD REGISTRATION SITE.

Pay online through the guild website or via paper/mail registration.

For either method, go to <https://www.handweavers-guild-boise.org/product/april-2026-learn-to-weave-weekend/>

◆ Cindy Griewe

President's Letter

Creating is a beautiful process. Sometimes it is exhilarating. Sometimes it is exhausting. Sometimes it fills us with wonder and pride, and sometimes we want to hide our creation where even we can't see it. But if we keep at it and keep creating and asking ourselves questions, we can create things that are special to ourselves.

This year's weaving intensive was a fabulous display of the creative process. On Saturday morning we shared what weave structure and yarn was on our loom. We described our journey to get us to where we were with this process and what we learned along the way. And then we spent the next 2 and a half days weaving on those looms and learning for ourselves about those weave structures, yarns, and about each other. It was a great experience and a fun process!

Thank you to all the participants and a special thank you to the organizers for all their efforts! I am excited to start a new journey to think about next year's topic: Supplementary Warp. Some wonderful guild members have already formed the new organizing committee! Wow! I hope everyone will join in the fun next year! Let a new process begin!

I look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming guild meeting! Don't forget to bring your show and tell and share your process! Our "Souped Up Show and Tell" program this month will provide extra time for you to go in depth into your process. Contact our vice presidents Lisa Baker or Robin Conrads if you would like one of the "Souped Up Show and Tell" time slots. And come listen to your fellow guild members stories about their creative process! See you there!

◆ Katzy Luhning, President



Comments from the 2026 Doubleweave Intensive

The 2026 Doubleweave Intensive was a great success. A big thanks to Rebecca, Kelly, Cindy and Chelsea for putting the workshop together. Here are a few comments from participants.

I was excited, and a bit nervous, to participate in the intensive this year, because Doubleweave seemed intimidating. However, I really want to be able to make larger blankets on my Gilmore loom, so I decided this was the time. I'm glad that I took Rebecca's advice to start with four shafts on plain weave so that I could dip my toe into the water slowly.

Not only did I come away from this experience with at least three new project ideas, I got to know two new Guild members, who are lovely.

For anyone who wants to expand their weaving, get more involved in the Guild, or wanting the challenge of taking on a new study, I would highly encourage you to join us next year.

◆ Connie Griffin

There are several things that I like/love about the Intensive.

1. You get to study a weaving topic that you might not have encountered before and learn more about it with help from other Guild members and the Guild library.
2. You get to see what other Guild members have learned about the topic that you might have missed in your own study. You can see what they have brought on their own loom and get a chance to weave it yourself and take the samples home.
3. You get to try weaving on other looms and see if they fit you and which ones you might consider buying for yourself.
4. It is a chance to chat with other Guild members over a three-day period.
5. WEAVING IS AWESOME and you get to do that all day for three days!!

◆ Hanna Meinikheim



I'm inspired by the many new ideas I have for Doubleweave creations in the year to come. It is always great to visit and learn from weavers for a whole weekend. Can't wait for next year!

◆ Cindy Griewe

As always, the Intensive was a wonderful three days of camaraderie and learning. There were so many varieties of Doubleweave and Doubleweave-adjacent drafts to sample. I went home with many project ideas and had an opportunity to get to know some of my fellow Guild members better. What a great event!

◆ Kelly Sandusky

I love being in a room filled with weavers! There is so much intelligent and positive energy flowing. Weaving Doubleweave folded, or double width, works way better than my past experiences have shown. It's possible for the fold to be invisible.

This Guild is the BEST at helping, mentoring, teaching and commiserating! I love this Guild!

◆ Mary Berent

This year was the second intensive I've participated in, and I found it even more fun than my first one. The Guild members are lots of fun to get to know and weave with through the weekend. I enjoy hearing everyone share what they've learned and getting help with my own weaving questions. It is fun work to prepare my project and loom for others to weave, and then to be able to weave a variety of projects on others' looms. Thank you all for the wonderful 2026 weaving intensive!

◆ Chelsea Grigsby

This year's intensive was a delightful three days. Sharing what we each had learned about Doubleweave provided a way to learn more about each other. It was fun to learn together!

And the committee who organized it did a fantastic job! Thank you for your work to make this weekend possible!

◆ Katzy Luhning

The Weaving Intensive Study Group is my favorite event of the entire Guild year. There's always a wonderful variety of weaves from the chosen topic, and so much to learn from each one. I highly recommend the experience to advanced weavers, as well as brand new weavers, and every weaver in-between.

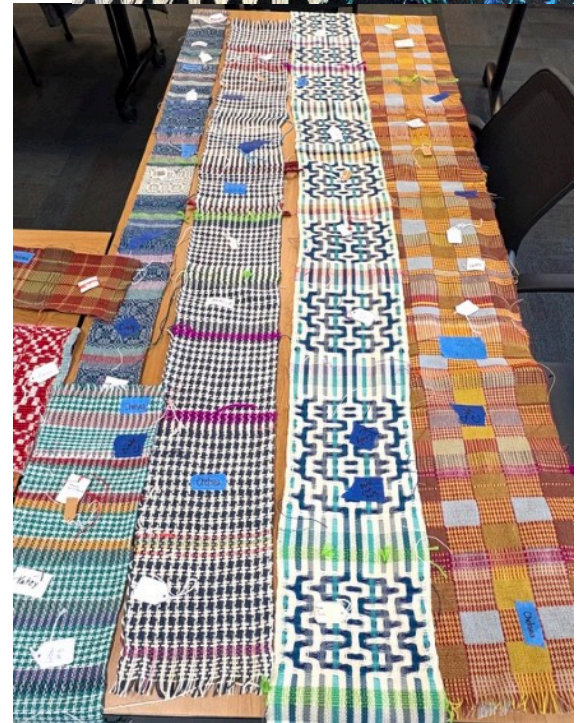
◆ Rebecca Winter

The Doubleweave Intensive was great! There were a wide variety of Doubleweave projects and 2 weavers brought 2 projects and 2 looms. Interestingly enough, half of the attendees have been weaving less than 5 years and one is brand new. The Intensive Committee did a wonderful job setting this up. Big thanks to Rebecca, Kelly, Cindy and Chelsea!

◆ Lisa Baker

We are already talking about next year's topic, "Supplementary Warp." Mark your calendar for January 16-18, 2027, and join us for another great study in weaving.

◆ Robin Conrads





Sample Box

Our sample this month was woven for us by Cindy Griewe. She has given us a wonderful glimpse of her study of double weave from the intensive. She tells of her trials and gives options for us to try. Thank you Cindy!

In a statement from the weaver herself, she says, "The sample is an example of Tied Beiderwand, in teabag string and doubled wool yarn (unknown size). It illustrates a twist on Doubleweave, providing an example of a stable Doubleweave cloth. Full draft and instructions are available in the 2026 Intensive guild binder."

If you have leftover warp on one of your weaves or wish to share another creative project we're still looking to fill the sample box!

- ❖ Christie Farrin, Sample Box Chair

Study Groups:

Spinning Study Group

The February Study Group will be meeting on the 11th from 11-2 at the Rubaiyat. We always look forward to new faces and skills of ALL LEVELS!

- ❖ Jeannie Phillips, Study Group Chair

Tapestry Study Group

Tapestry study group usually meets on the third Thursday of the month. Thanks to Katzy for stepping up at the last minute to be our January host! Our next meeting will be at Julie Gerrard's house on Thursday, Feb. 19, at 11 am (thanks in advance, Julie)! Everyone is welcome to attend. Folks are encouraged to bring



ongoing or completed projects, ideas, books, etc. for "show and tell," and this seems to work for lively, fun, and informative gatherings. Hope to see you there!

- ◆ Mary Donato, Acting Study Group Chair

Lace Study Group

The lace study group will be meeting Tuesday, February 10th, at 10:00 am at my house.

- ◆ Raelene Viste, Study Group Chair

Beginning Weaving Study Group

The beginning weaving group will meet at Sheri Bittner's home on February 12, at 6 pm. The topic for this month is "Weaving Library."

- ◆ Sherry Bittner, the Very Happy Beginning Study Group Chair

Day Weaving Study Group

Day Weaving Group will meet February 17, 10:30-1:30ish in Nampa at Greta Ankeny's home. The address is in our on-line membership listing. All Guild members are welcome, bring projects, ideas and questions. Keep Weaving,

- ◆ Greta Ankeny, Study Group Chair

Rigid Heddle Study Group

Rigid Heddle Study Group Meeting info for the next 3 months.

Please note date changes for Feb and March and no meeting for April.

Reminders just prior to dates will be sent via [Groups.io](https://www.groups.io)

Feb 15, Caldwell location --- note this is a change to the 3rd week (due to the way the calendar days line up - the first Sat for guild meeting falling on the same week-end as the 2nd Sun - our usual RHSG meeting day.)

Topic:

Weave together

Bring your questions and info to share

Bring Rigid Heddle projects for show n tell

Mar15, Lunatic Fringe Yarns Fruitland Location -- Also 3rd Sun - same reason

Topic:

Color Theory Study

Bring Rigid Heddle projects for show n tell

Apr - No Meeting - many will be participating the Learn to Weave week-end

- ◆ Jinks Hunter & Jenne Schiffhauer, Co-Chairs

Paper Study Group

Our next meeting is on February 15, 2026, at 1:30 pm. We will see you here at my house (Rebecca). Bring your Show and Tell to share, and plan to share any new study information you have found.

- ◆ Rebecca Winter, Study Group Chair

Thursday Fiber Friends

We are an informal group who meet at 2pm every Thursday via zoom. We work on our projects, help each other with project questions and chat about whatever comes up. We feel free to stay the whole time (and make some progress on that project) or just pop in for a bit of time for a quick catch up when busy with other stuff. We're very flexible - please feel welcome to join us.

- ◆ Jinks Hunter, Study Group Chair



President's Challenge - Addendum

Julie Gerrard also participated in the President's Challenge.

- ◆ Rebecca Winter, Historian



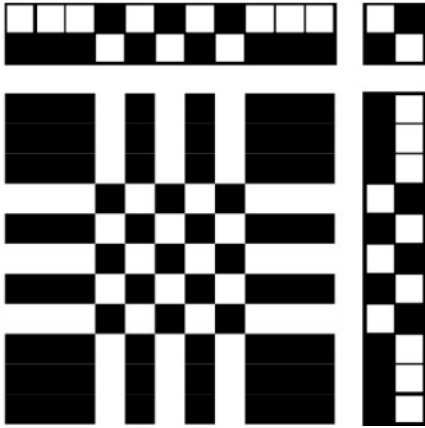
UNDERSTANDING PROFILE DRAFTS

with Deb Essen

June 19, 20, 21 - 2026

Fairview Terrace Community Center – Meridian, ID

Have you seen drafts like this and wondered how you use it to create fabric?



Learn how to use profile drafts as a powerful weaving design tool! We will learn how to translate a profile draft into thread by thread drafts for several weave structures.

We will also discuss what kind of weave structures can use profile drafts and what structures can't. Samples in round robin format, so everyone will go home with a sample of at least 5 weave structures discussed in class and have a chance to play with them.

The workshop is open to members of the Handweavers Guild of Boise Valley and will be held June 19 – 21, 2026, at the Fairview Terrace Community Center in Meridian. If you would like to attend the workshop but are not a member of the Guild; memberships are just \$35.00 <https://www.handweavers-guild-boise.org/>.

The cost of the workshop will be determined by the number of attendees, but should be in the realm of \$150.00 to \$175.00. For comparison, workshops like this that are offered at conferences such as ANWG usually charge ~ \$400.00.

Students will bring their table or floor loom un-warped, because students will be warping looms in class (students must be comfortable warping their looms independently). Pre-class instructions will be sent to attendees in May. The class is geared toward advanced beginners through intermediate weavers.

If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact Lisa Baker or Robin Conrads: email addresses are available through the Guild's groups.io site.



Deb Essen lives, weaves, and runs her business *dje handwovens* in the Bitterroot Valley, nestled in the Rocky Mountains of western Montana. In 2004, Deb achieved the Certificate of Excellence in Handweaving-Level 1 through the Handweaver's Guild of America. In 2011 she was inducted to the Montana Circle of American Masters in Folk and Traditional Art. Her book, [Easy Weaving With Supplemental Warps](#), was published originally by Interweave Press in 2016. In 2022, the book was re-released as an expanded revised edition, with more projects and weave structures, by Schiffer Publishing. She has recorded five weaving videos, available through Long Thread Media, ranging from supplemental warps to profile drafting and has written multiple feature articles for [Handwoven](#) and [Little Looms](#) magazines. Deb is passionate about teaching about the wonders of weaving and teaches at shops, guilds, regional and national conferences and festivals.

Regular Meeting Minutes ~ January 3, 2025

Call To Order at 11:35AM

- Present were 36
- attendees: Katzy Luhring, Dyan Lay, Hanna Meinikheim, Kari Lawton, Julie Gerrard, Tracey Stringer, Esther Kleinkauf, Cindy Griewe, Stephanie Eddy, Nancy Alzola, Tom Thompson, Christie Farrin, Mary Ann Davis, Robins Conrads, Mary Donato, Cynthia Brandt, Jean Zaske, Susan Inouye, Maryanne Poling, Jane Hoover, Pat Dayton, Lisa Baker, Irene Chandler, Sally Johnston, Germaine Howson, Connie Griffin, Khana Oxier-Mori, Nancy Swenson, Karen Snyders, Sheila Miller, Sherri Bittner, Dorothy Cooper, Chelsea Grigsby, and Vila Cox.

Business

- President – Katzy Luhring
 - Katzy welcomed everyone, and members introduced themselves by name and favorite fiber.
 - Several new people were members or visiting.
 - Napkin Exchange
 - ◆ Tom Thompson was unable to attend the December meeting, so he gave his-made napkin to Lisa Baker as well as receiving his exchange napkin made by Mary Berent.
 - ◆ In total, there were 25 napkin exchange participants.
 - Katzy made a call for volunteers for anyone wanting to serve on the Guild Board.
- Vice Presidents – Lisa Baker and Robin Conrads
 - Lisa discussed upcoming workshops:
 - ◆ Deb Essen’s workshop sign up is available now. The event will be at the Fairview Terrace Community Center on June 19-21. See the latest newsletter for details. Payment will be accepted soon.
 - ◆ Rebecca Winter is working out the logistics of her upcoming color-and-weave workshop tentatively scheduled for Fall 2026.
 - Robin highlighted programs:
 - ◆ Today’s program is the mini workshops.
 - ◆ February’s program will be a “souped up” show and tell. Sign-up sheet available to present your pieces.
 - ◆ The March program will be a yarn study, with all types of yarn discussed, panel discussion and Q&A.
 - ◆ April’s program will be presented by Mitzi Meyers. See an upcoming newsletter for more details.
- Treasurer – Kelly Sandusky
 - Financial details are not included in the newsletter. Questions may be directed to Kelly, who can provide additional information about the Guild’s finances.
- Secretary – Dyan Lay
 - Nothing to report.
- Membership – Cindy Griewe
 - Cindy announced the Guild has 122 members.
 - The Spring directory was emailed to all members, or members can see the membership list in groups.io.
- Study Groups
 - Beginning Weaving – Sherri Bittner: This group meets the second Thursday of every month at 6PM. This month’s topic is keeping weaving records. Everyone is welcome; the more the merrier.

Officers & Guild Board

- President - Katzy Luhring
- Vice President - Robin Conrads
- Vice President - Lisa Baker
- Secretary - Dyan Lay
- Treasurer - Kelly Sandusky
- Membership Officer - Cindy Griewe
- Past President - Mary Berent

Chairs

- Librarian - Sally Johnston
- Web Master - Robin Conrads
- Equipment - Vila Cox
- Newsletter Editor - Rebecca Winter
- Pat Ann Fund Administrator - Anne Oglevie
- Sample Exchange - Christie Farrin
- Outreach Committee - Janet Stanger
- Social Media - Dyan Lay
- ANWG Representative - Connie Griffin
- Spinning Study Group - Jeannie Phillips
- 2027 Weaving Intensive Study Group
 - * Robin Conrads
 - * Hanna Meinikheim
 - * and Others - a committee
- Day Weaving Study Group - Greta Ankeny
- Beginning Weaving Study Group - Sherry Bittner
- Rigid Heddle Study Group - Jinks Hunter & Jenne Schiffhauer
- Garment Study Group - Anne Oglevie
- Lace Study Group - Raelene Viste
- Thursday Fiber Friends Zoom - Jinks Hunter
- Tapestry Study Group - Jaimie Landry
- Paper Study Group - Rebecca Winter
- Tour de Fleece - Jinks Hunter
- Church of Christ Contact Person - Vila Cox
- Bowmont Church Contact Person - Rebecca Winter
- Fairview Terrace Community Center Contact People - Rebecca Winter & Cindy Griewe
- Post Office Box Name Holder - Mitzi Meyers
- Mail Collector - Mitzi Meyers

Website

<http://www.handweavers-guild-boise.org>

Facebook [Click Here for Link](#)

Mailing Address

PO Box 6258, Boise, ID 83707



- Paper – Rebecca Winter: This group meets the third Sunday at 1:30PM at Rebecca’s house.
- Rigid Heddle – Robin Conrads: This group meets monthly the second Sunday.
- Day Weaving – Kelly Sandusky: This group meets the third Tuesday of each month. There is no meeting in January.
- Fiber Friends – Mitzi Meyers: This group meets via Zoom every Thursday at 2PM and is a great opportunity to sit with friends, work on a project and chat.
- Tapestry – Mary Donato: The group meets the third Thursday of every month. This month they will meet at 11AM at Julie Gerrard’s home.
- Intensive – Rebecca Winter: This study group meets MLK weekend in January 2026. The topic is Double Weave, and the weekend will be held at the U of I Research Center.
 - ◆ Preparation is necessary, and this will be a round robin weaving situation.
 - ◆ Participants need to get Rebecca their binder information by January 3rd at the latest.
 - ◆ Let Rebecca know what kind of double weave as well as the threading, tie up, treadling, sett, yarn and color way.
- Learn to Weave Weekend – Cindy Griewe: Participants weave on their own loom. The cost is \$40, and members bring their naked loom and tools. The venue – Fairview Terrace Community Center – will accommodate only 14 people so sign up now.
- See the latest newsletter for all Study Group activities and meeting details.

Show and Tell

- Mary Donato brought a Wild Weave book.
- Cindy Griewe crocheted a lap Afghan with wool and alpaca.
- Germaine Howson wore a fabulous denim jacket with crocheted sleeves.
- Mary Ann Davis showed her crocheted car project and a “cat butt” shawl.
- Irene Chandler shared a lace wall hanging.
- Stephanie Eddy presented a knitted and embellished scarf.
- Connie Griffin brought her husband’s felted slippers she did on her knitting machine.
- Hanna Meinikheim knitted ornamental ball, crocheted the cutest tiny octopi and finished her Doubleweave samples.
- Raelene Viste showed a hat and scarf she knitted with extra yarn as well as wore a sweater she completed.
- Kari Lawton brought a granny chevron scarf.
- Khana Oxier-Mori held up a spun run using art yarn.

Today’s program is Mini Workshops. Meeting adjourned at 12:23PM.

- ◆ Respectfully submitted by Dyan Lay, Secretary

